



The enemies of Jesus did not relish having him say this to them. They were offended that he should suggest that they were in any kind of slavery. "We have never been in bondage to any man: why do you say to us, 'Ye shall be made free'?"

But Jesus meant the slavery of sin, and said, "Every one that committeth sin is the bondservant of sin." Bad habits are bad masters. They make us their slaves. And the worst of all slavery is slavery to sin or bad habits. Jesus came to set us free from this slavery.

Scripture—John 1:19-51.



Priests from Jerusalem went to John the Baptist to inquire who he was. John answered them that he was "the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Make straight the way of the Lord."



Next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said to his companions, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. This is He whom I said cometh after me."



Hearing John say that Jesus was the Lamb of God, two of his disciples followed Christ, and when He asked them why, they inquired where He lived. Jesus said, "Come and see," and they did.



Philip found Nathaniel and told him the Messiah was Jesus of Nazareth, but Philip doubted, saying, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?"
MEMORY VERSE—John 1:41.

The Call of the Fishermen

ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Alfred J. Buescher

Scripture—Matthew 4:18-25; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11.



Walking by the sea of Galilee, Jesus saw two brothers, Andrew and Simon called Peter, casting nets into the sea, and He said: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."



Peter and Andrew followed the Lord, and going further, they saw two other brothers, James and John, sons of Zebedee, mending nets. Jesus called to them to follow Him, and they did.



So famous did Jesus become that people followed Him everywhere. As He stood by a lake, He saw two empty ships off shore so He stood in one and preached to the people.



After fishing all night and catching nothing, the fishermen were discouraged, but Jesus told Peter where to cast his net and the result was two boats full.
MEMORY VERSE—Mark 1:17.

Matthew Becomes a Follower

ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Alfred J. Buescher

Scripture—Matthew 9:9-17; Luke 5:27-39.



Jesus, passing by, saw a publican named Levi sitting at the seat of custom, and He said to him, "Follow Me," and the man rose up, left all and followed the Master.



That evening Levi gave a great feast in his house, and there was a big company of fellow publicans and of others that sat down with them at tables to eat and drink.



Scribes and Pharisees complained that Jesus and His disciples ate and drank with "publicans and sinners," and asked them why they did things that were forbidden Jews.



Jesus answered that "they that are whole need no physician; and that He came not to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."
MEMORY VERSE—Luke 5:28.